

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2962

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2007

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the tourism plays an important role in the economy of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether United Nations World Tourism Organisation has encouraged the use of environmental conditionality as barriers to international tourism, particularly in the developing countries;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to promote sustainable development of tourism to make India an ecologically and socially sensitive tourism destination?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) and (b): According to the Tourism Satellite Account for India, tourism contributed about 5.83% of total Gross Domestic Product and 8.27% of total employment in the country during 2002-03.

(c) and (d): No, Sir. In the session on the subject of 'Tourism and Climate Change' of the General Assembly of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) held on November 29th, 2007 in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia it was resolved that there should not be any discrimination against developing countries by creating obstacles to their economic development and in particular of those developing countries located at long distance from tourist generating markets.

(e): The Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance to the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations for development of tourist circuits/destinations including eco tourism and rural tourism sites under the scheme of Product/ Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits.